1967 • 1968 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Introducing The Imperial Potentate A.A.O.N.M.S. THOMAS F. SEAY

THOMAS SEAY... FAMILY MAN

Seay's family includes his lovely wife, Ruth, a daughter,
Sandra, his son-in-law Charles Henry Dodge III., a grandson and a granddaughter.
He is a member of the Episcopal Church of the Mediator in Chicago.

MAN WITH A MISSION

In a spacious high-rise apartment overlooking Lake Michigan and the skyline of his beloved Chicago there lives a man with a mission. His name is Thomas F. Seay. To the 851,000 Shriners around the world he is Imperial Potentate for the Shrine year of 1967-1968, and as such will guide the destiny of the Fraternal Order known as the Ancient Arabic Order, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine.

HORATIO ALGER STORY

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Tom Seay has worked hard since he was 15, nd can now afford to slow down. But this is ot the nature of the man. He still rises at A.M. dedicated to the success of his longange goals: to help make Chicago the "First City" in America, and to lead the Shrine and ts great philanthropy to the loftiest heights et attained through the stimulation of a reurgence of Masonic ideals and a "return to the asic concepts of Blue Lodge Masonry."

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Tom Seay accomplishes a lot of work and planning in his Lake Shore apartment, and, as he discusses real estate deals amounting to millions of dollars over the elaborate electronic communications system installed there, it is almost beyond belief that this is the same country boy from Kentucky who arrived in Chicago in 1924, flat broke, with no higher education, and no skills beyond driving a taxi or working as a redcap and a switch tender at Union Station. His story of overcoming seemingly insurmountable obstacles in his climb to the lofty heights of success and influence in Chicagoland's world of business and finance is in the best Horatio Alger tradition, and has earned for him the reputation as Chicago's "Cinderella Man." Tom Seay's saga is one of the most inspiring stories to come out of the gigantic building boom that is daily changing the profile of Chicago.

Tom Seay has worked hard since he was 15, and can now afford to slow down. But this is not the nature of the man. He still rises at 6 A.M. dedicated to the success of his long-range goals: to help make Chicago the "First City" in America, and to lead the Shrine and its great philanthropy to the loftiest heights yet attained through the stimulation of a resurgence of Masonic ideals and a "return to the basic concepts of Blue Lodge Masonry."

This distinguished Shriner was born in Mayfield, Kentucky, a member of the fourth generation of Seays to call Mayfield "home." An unfortunate reversal in tobacco fortunes left the Seays in dire financial straits, and young Tom left home at the age of 15 to drive a taxi in Paducah to help support the struggling family.

Later he fired a locomotive on the Illinois Central line, and eventually made his way to Chicago on a railroad employee's pass seeking greener pastures and an education that would assure him a brighter future.

The young Tom Seay dug ditches, drove a truck, and finally, at one point, found himself working as a teller in the First National Bank until 2 P.M. each day, dashing then to Marshall Field & Company, where he was a helper in the dress department, then, in the evenings, driving himself with his tremendous physical stamina to attend school, acquiring the education he had previously been denied.

For eight years Seay weathered the stress and strain of this regimen of work and self-improvement–surviving financially, and preparing for his future by acquiring the fundamentals of banking, marketing, and other knowledge that forms the basis of today's complex economy.

Seay's "make Chicago first" mission is lofty–but is no ivory-tower dream. As Chairman of the Board of Seay & Thomas, Inc., he has backed his faith in his adopted city with the ingredients that are essential to any successful project – big money, imagination, courage, a top "know-how" company team, and a lot of hard work. He has almost single-handedly changed the formula of operation in commercial real estate development. Seay uses "creative packaging" in this field in much the same manner employed by modern merchandisers of automobiles, furniture, and other "big ticket" products.

In addition to his major interest in the operation of Seay & Thomas, Inc., Seay is President and Owner of Lang, Weise & Cella, Inc., and President and Owner of Gordon Strong & Company. He is a Director of the United Bank of America, the Aetna Bank, and the All American Life and Casualty Company.

CIVIC SERVICE

Despite his busy schedule, Tom Seay finds time for civic and professional service. He is a Past President of the Chicago Real Estate Board and Past Director of the National Association of Real Estate Boards; a member of the Board of Directors of the Salvation Army, Chicago Boys Clubs, the Civic Federation, the North Michigan Avenue Association, and the Executive's Club of Chicago; and is a member of the Illinois Association of Real Estate Boards, the Mortgage Bankers Association of America, the Chicago Mortgage Bankers Association, the Chicago Board of Underwriters, the Chicago Athletic Club and the Union League Club. He has served as Chairman of the United Cerebral Palsy Campaign, the Cancer Society, and the Crusade of Mercy Campaign.

MASONIC

ay was elected Imperial Outer Guard of the rine in July, 1958, and became Imperial Potate in July, 1967. In addition to his duties the Imperial Divan, he is the chief executive officer and President of the Board of Dictors of the Imperial Council, Chairman of e Board of Directors of the Shriners Hospils for Crippled Children, and is a member of e Board of Trustees of the Shriners Hospitals r Crippled Children. This dedicated Imperial ficer also is a member of the Board of Govnors of the Chicago Unit of the Shrine Hosals for Crippled Children and the Cincinnati nit, Shriners Burns Institutes.

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MISSION

Tom Seay's avowed mission in Masonry is to see that every Shriner assumes personal responsibility for guiding one young man into the Blue Lodge. If this is done he feels, the cause of Masonry, the York and Scottish Rites, and the Shrine will be advanced beyond anything that has gone before.

It is quite a mission that Chicago's "Cinderella Man" has set for himself. Based on past performance and determination, however, there is little doubt that he will succeed.

MASONIC

Tom Seay became an Entered Apprentice in Cuba Lodge #644 at Cuba, Kentucky and was raised to Master Mason and is a member of Olympia Lodge No. 864 in Chicago; the Scottish Rite, Valley of Chicago; Logan Chapter No. 196, R.A.M.; Chicago Commandery No. 19, Knights Templar; a Past Potentate of Medinah Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S.; he was elected to the Royal Order of Jesters, Court No. 48, in 1944, the Red Cross of Constantine in 1953, the Royal Order of Scotland in 1954, the Cabiri in 1957, and was Coroneted a 33-degree A.A.S.R. Mason, Northern Jurisdiction, in 1966.

Seay was elected Imperial Outer Guard of the Shrine in July, 1958, and became Imperial Potentate in July, 1967. In addition to his duties on the Imperial Divan, he is the chief executive officer and President of the Board of Directors of the Imperial Council, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Shriners Hospitals for Crippled Children, and is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Shriners Hospitals for Crippled Children. This dedicated Imperial Officer also is a member of the Board of Governors of the Chicago Unit of the Shrine Hospitals for Crippled Children and the Cincinnati Unit, Shriners Burns Institutes.

Medinah Temple Divan

Chicago, Illinois

G. William Sullivan	Illustrious Potentate
William L. Backus	Chief Rabban
George R. Wilson	Assistant Rabban
Walter M. Dill	High Priest and Prophet
Harry O. Kjellberg	Treasurer
Carl W. Lutz	Recorder
William C. Mutter	Oriental Guide
Thomas C. Roberts	Captain of the Guard

Medinah Temple Past Potentates

Albin R. Anderson — 1966
Yngvar Brynildssen — 1965
William M. Weisenborn — 1964
Walter H. Vartan — 1963
William Trubeck — 1962
Harold G. MacDonald — 1961
Harry O. Kjellberg — 1960
William J. Payes, Jr. — 1959
James W. Hilton — 1958
Thomas F. Seay — 1956
Murray A. Stillwaugh — 1954
Sig J. Chakow — 1952
Emmett Wright — 1950
George H. Vann — 1949
Joseph A. Downey — 1948
John B. Morgan — 1947
Claude H. Hayward — 1945
Carl A. Miller — 1936

THOMAS F. SEAY

Imperial Potentate

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93rd IMPERIAL COUNCIL SESSION A.A.O.N.M.S.

Washington, D.C. / July 12, 1967

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

James W. Hilton, P.P., Medinah Temple, Pageant Chairman

George R. Wilson, Assistant Rabban, Medinah Temple, Pageant Unit Coordinator

Ralph Edwards Productions, Hollywood, California

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Jack Dempsey, Medinah Temple
Frank Podd, Medinah Temple
G. William Sullivan, Potentate, Medinah Temple
William L. Backus, Chief Rabban, Medinah Temple
Yngvar Brynildssen, P.P., Medinah Temple
Richard J. Daley, Mayor, Chicago, Illinois
Nobility of Al Malaikah Temple
Drum & Bugle Corp., Al Malaikah Temple
Medinah Temple Chanters, Director Eric Arnold Alenius
Medinah Temple's Oriental Band, Director William H. Schofield
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Charles W. Marshall, Medinah Temple

PAGEANT PROGRAM

Medinah Temple Brass Band, William F. Dreier, Director
Medinah Temple Oriental Band, William H. Schofield, Director
Medinah Temple Chanters, Eric Arnold Alenius, Director
Medinah Temple Black Horse Troop, William F. Buell, Commander
Medinah Temple Motor Corp, Earl C. Bruhn, Commander
Introduction of Pageant Chairman, James W. Hilton, Past Potentate of Medinah Temple, by G. William Sullivan, Potentate of Medinah Temple

Medinah Temple Presents Ralph Edwards'

"THIS IS YOUR LIFE"

Medinah Temple Arab Patrol, Clare B. Lang, Major
Medinah Temple Arab Patrol Color Guard, Dan J. Gengo, Color Sergeant
Imperial Potentate THOMAS F. SEAY, escorted by Medinah Temple Arab Patrol
Introduction of the Thomas F. Seay Family
Introduction of Potentate G. William Sullivan, Medinah Temple Divan and Past Potentates
Introduction of other Potentates from the State of Illinois:
Roy L. Wilimzig, Jr., Ainad Temple, East St. Louis
Charles W. Brosch, Jr., Ansar Temple, Springfield
Grant L. Nelson, Mohammed Temple, Peoria
Harold J. Pavela, Tebala Temple, Rockford

Thomas M. Hodges, Orak Temple, Hammond, Ind.
George J. Schreiber, Tripoli Temple, Milwaukee, Wis.

Introduction of the Grand Master of the State of Illinois, Myron K. Lingle, Ansar Temple, Springfield, and Grand Master of the State of Kentucky, Davie J. Smith, Oleika Temple, Lexington

Presentation of Fez to Imperial Chaplin, Rev. Timothy B. Reeves, First Methodist Church, Evergreen Park, Illinois, Medinah Temple

Presentation of Swagger Stick by President William Scott and Captain William Kellogg, Al Malaikah Temple Scimitar Patrol

Presentation of Imperial Potentate Flag by Imperial Recorder, George M. Saunders

Presentation of Imperial Potentate Fez by Charles H. Dodge, III

Remarks by the Imperial Sir, Thomas F. Seay